

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1           1. A method, comprising:  
2           receiving meta-data broadcast by a server system, the meta-data including  
3           descriptions of a plurality of data files currently being broadcasted or to be broadcasted by  
4           the server system;  
5           selecting in response to a content rating table a data file described by the meta-data,  
6           the content rating table generated responsive to data files previously accessed; and  
7           displaying the selected data file on a personalized channel on a display device.
- 1           2. The method of claim 1 wherein the selected data file is one of a currently  
2           broadcasted data file and a stored data file.
- 1           3. The method of claim 1 further comprising rating data files in response to  
2           reading the content rating table.
- 1           4. The method of claim 3 further comprising selecting a data file based upon the  
2           rating of the data file and storing the selected data file in a storage device to create a stored  
3           data file.
- 1           5. The method of claim 4 further comprising:  
2           comparing the ratings of currently broadcasted data files and stored data files; and  
3           selecting the currently broadcasted data file or stored data file with the highest  
4           rating.
- 1           6. The method of claim 5 further comprising displaying the selected data file on a  
2           personalized channel on a display device.
- 1           7. The method of claim 4 wherein a currently broadcasted data file is an immediate  
2           viewing data file and is automatically selected.

1           8. The method of claim 7 wherein if an immediate viewing data file is not selected  
2 then a stored data file is selected.

1           9. The method of claim 8 wherein if neither an immediate viewing data file or a  
2 stored data file is selected then a best current data file option is selected.

1           10. The method of claim 9 further comprising displaying the selected data file on a  
2 personalized channel on a display device.

1           11. The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of data files comprise at least one  
2 of video information, graphical information, audio information, multi-media information  
3 or textual information.

1           12. An apparatus, comprising:  
2 a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;  
3 a communications interface coupled to the processor, the communications interface  
4 coupled to receive data files and meta-data from a server system; and  
5 a storage device coupled to the processor, the storage device having sequences of  
6 instructions stored therein, which when executed by the processor cause the processor to:  
7 receive meta-data broadcast by a server system, the meta-data including  
8 descriptions of a plurality of data files currently being broadcasted or to be broadcasted by  
9 the server system;  
10 select in response to a content rating table a data file described by the meta-data,  
11 the content rating table generated responsive to data files previously accessed; and  
12 display the selected data file on a personalized channel on a display device.

1           13. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the selected data file is one of a currently  
2 broadcasted data file and a stored data file.

1           14. The apparatus of claim 12 further comprising rating data files in response to  
2 the content rating table.

1           15. The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising selecting a data file based upon  
2 the rating of the data file and storing the selected data file in the storage device to create a  
3 stored data file.

1           16. The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising:  
2 comparing the ratings of currently broadcasted data files and stored data files; and  
3 selecting the currently broadcasted data file or stored data file with the highest  
4 rating.

1           17. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the selected data file is displayed on a  
2 personalized channel on a display device.

1           18. The apparatus of claim 15 wherein a currently broadcasted data file is an  
2 immediate viewing data file and is automatically selected.

1           19. The apparatus of claim 18 wherein if an immediate viewing data file is not  
2 selected then a stored data file is selected.

1           20. The apparatus of claim 19 wherein if neither an immediate viewing data file or  
2 a stored data file is selected then a best current data file option is selected.

1           21. The apparatus of claim 20 wherein the selected data file is displayed on a  
2 personalized channel on a display device.

1           22. The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the plurality of data files comprise at least  
2 one of video information, graphical information, audio information, multi-media  
3 information or textual information.

1           23. A machine-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, which when  
2 executed by a processor cause the processor to:

3 receive meta-data broadcast by a server system, the meta-data including  
 4 descriptions of a plurality of data files currently being broadcasted or to be broadcasted by  
 5 the server system;

6 select in response to a content rating table a data file described by the meta-data,  
 7 the content rating table generated responsive to data files previously accessed; and  
 8 display the selected data file on a personalized channel on a display device.

1 24. The machine-readable medium of claim 23 wherein the selected data file is one  
 2 of a currently broadcasted data file and a stored data file.

1 25. The machine-readable medium of claim 23 further comprising instructions to  
 2 rate data files in response to the content rating table.

1 26. The machine-readable medium of claim 25 further comprising instructions to:  
 2 select a data file based upon the rating of the data file; and  
 3 store the selected data file in the storage device to create a stored data file.

1 27. The machine-readable medium of claim 26 further comprising instructions to:  
 2 compare the ratings of currently broadcasted data files and stored data files; and  
 3 select the currently broadcasted data file or stored data file with the highest rating.

1 28. The machine-readable medium of claim 27 further comprising instructions to  
 2 display the selected data file on a personalized channel on a display device.

1 29. The machine-readable medium of claim 26 wherein a currently broadcasted  
 2 data file is an immediate viewing data file and is automatically selected.

1 30. The machine-readable medium of claim 29 wherein if an immediate viewing  
 2 data file is not selected then a stored data file is selected.

1 31. The machine-readable medium of claim 30 wherein if neither an immediate  
 2 viewing data file or a stored data file is selected then a best current data file option is  
 3 selected.

- 1           32. The machine-readable medium of claim 31 wherein the selected data file is
- 2   displayed on a personalized channel on a display device.